

August 1st, 2018

Sent via E-mail

Honourable George Heyman,
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
PO Box 9047 Stn Prov Gov
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Sir:

Re: park use permit to British Columbia Timber Sales for logging adjacent to Skagit and Manning provincial parks

We act for the Wilderness Committee for the purpose of assessing the legality of Park Use Permit No. 102933 (the "Permit") granted to BC Timber Sales and Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations ("BCTS") (attached for ease of reference).

The Permit authorizes "road use, maintenance and access" within Manning Provincial park. The Wilderness Committee have attended at the location subject of the Permit and confirmed that BCTS is using the road for the purpose of enabling logging in an area adjacent to the park generally known as the "donut hole."

Having reviewed the Permit, the 2004 Management Plan for Manning Provincial Park and Cascade Recreation Area, the Permit's precursor, and historical documents pertaining to logging and mineral exploration in the former Skagit Recreation Area and Manning Provincial Park and adjacent lands, we conclude that the issuance of the permit is unlawful.

For example, we conclude and have advised the Wilderness Committee that issuance of the permit breaches section 8(2) of the *Park Act* [RSBC 1996] c. 344 in that there is no reasonable basis for the former Minister forming the opinion that issuance of the permit "is necessary to preserve or maintain the recreational values of the park involved."

Accordingly, we have advised the Wilderness Committee that we will accept a retainer regarding commencing a judicial review to set aside the permit, including seeking injunctive relief.

The point of this letter is, however, to avoid an unnecessary lawsuit.

Rather, we seek to meet with the Minister to bring to his attention the actions of the former Minister that breached the *Park Act* toward seeking the Minister's voluntary withdrawal of the permit.

Or, we seek to learn facts which may not be within our possession that would demonstrate that there was a reasonable basis for the former Minister's opinion that issuance of the permit was lawful.

Since logging is active, we require your immediate response.

Sincerely,



Devon Page
Executive Director

Encl.

cc:

Honourable Doug Donaldson
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
PO Box 9049 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca